

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A magnetic head having an air bearing surface (ABS), comprising:
a first pole tip having an upper end;
a second pole tip having a bottom end spaced apart from and facing the upper end of the first pole tip; and
a bump extending into a portion of the upper end of the first pole tip in a direction towards the ABS, the bump also extending into and a portion of the bottom end of the second pole tip, the bump being positioned away from the ABS.
2. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 1, wherein the bump defines a throat height of the first and second pole tips.
3. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 1, wherein the bump has a generally circular shape.
4. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 1, wherein the bump has a generally oval shape.
5. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 1, wherein the bump has a generally trapezoidal shape.

6. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 1, wherein the bump tapers together towards the ABS.
7. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 1, wherein the bump extends in a direction away from the ABS about to a back gap of the magnetic head.
8. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 1, wherein the bump is constructed of a nonmagnetic material.
9. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 8, wherein the bump is constructed of alumina.
10. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 8, wherein the bump is constructed of a nonmagnetic metal.
11. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 10, wherein the nonmagnetic metal is electrically conductive.
12. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 8, wherein the bump is constructed of cured resist.
13. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 1, wherein the bump is formed using a dry process.
14. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 13, wherein the bump is formed by deposition.
15. (ORIGINAL) A magnetic head having an air bearing surface (ABS), comprising:
a first pole tip having an upper end;

a second pole tip having a bottom end spaced apart from and facing the upper end of the first pole tip; and
a bump extending into a portion of the upper end of the first pole tip and a portion of the bottom end of the second pole tip, the bump being positioned away from the ABS, the bump being constructed of a nonmagnetic material, wherein the bump defines a throat height of the first and second pole tips.

16. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 15, wherein the bump has a generally circular shape.
17. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 15, wherein the bump has a generally oval shape.
18. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 15, wherein the bump has a generally trapezoidal shape.
19. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 15, wherein the bump tapers together towards the ABS.
20. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 15, wherein the bump extends in a direction away from the ABS about to a back gap of the magnetic head.
21. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 15, wherein the bump is constructed of alumina.
22. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 15, wherein the bump is constructed of a nonmagnetic metal.

23. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 15, wherein the bump is constructed of cured resist.
24. (ORIGINAL) The head as recited in claim 15, wherein the bump is formed using a dry process.
25. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A magnetic storage system, comprising:
magnetic media;
at least one head for reading from and writing to the magnetic media, each head having an air bearing surface (ABS), each head comprising:
a sensor;
a write element coupled to the sensor, the write element comprising a first pole tip having an upper end, a second pole tip having a bottom end spaced apart from and facing the upper end of the first pole tip, and a bump extending towards the ABS into a portion of the upper end of the first pole tip and a portion of the bottom end of the second pole tip, the bump being positioned away from the ABS;
a slider for supporting the head; and
a control unit coupled to the head for controlling operation of the head.